

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 118933  
ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EA-10 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10  
L-03 ACDA-12 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 ICA-11  
TRSE-00 DODE-00 NEA-11 NSC-05 MMO-01 /104 R

DRAFTED BY HA/ORM:LSCHERME RN:ND  
APPROVED BY HA/ORM:SCLOWMAN  
EA/RA:FBENNET (DRAFT)  
EUR/RPM:TSAVAGE (DRAFT)

-----062164 101833Z /75

P R 101732Z MAY 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY  
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118933

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: NATO EXPERTS REPORT ON SOUTH AND EAST ASIA:

REF: USNATO 4450 (NOTAL)

1. FOLLOWING MATERIAL ON REFUGEES IN INDOCHINA PROVIDED IN  
CONNECTION WITH NAC REVIEW OF SUBJECT EXPERTS REPORT. MIS-  
SION MAY DRAW AS APPROPRIATE ON MATERIAL DURING NAC DISCUS-  
SION AND MAY CIRCULATE TEXT TO ALLIED DELS. FURTHER GUIDANCE  
ON ITEMS NOTED IN REFTEL WILL BE TRANSMITTED BY SEPTTEL:

2. BEGIN TEXT:

BACKGROUND/TALKING POINTS -- NATO EXPERTS' MEETING

INDOCHINESE REFUGEES  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 118933

(A) INDOCHINESE REFUGEES REMAIN A PROBLEM, EVEN THOUGH RE-  
SETTLEMENT IN COUNTRIES OUTSIDE SOUTHEAST ASIA HAS NUMBERED  
MORE THAN 225,000 SINCE SPRING 1975. CAMPS IN THAILAND  
CURRENTLY HOUSE MORE THAN 102,000 LAO, HMONG, CAMBODIAN, AND  
ETHNIC VIETNAMESE REFUGEES, WHO ARRIVED BY LAND WITH THE  
ESCAPE RATE AVERAGING 3,000 PER MONTH AND INCREASING.

(B) MOREOVER REFUGEES ARE NOW ESCAPING FROM VIETNAM BY BOAT AT A RATE OF OVER 3,000 PER MONTH. OVER 7,000 BOAT REFUGEES WITHOUT OFFERS OF RESETTLEMENT ARE WAITING IN CAMPS IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES, PRIMARILY MALAYSIA AND THAILAND.

(C) OVER THE PAST THREE YEARS, MAJOR ACCEPTANCE PROGRAMS BY THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE, AUSTRALIA AND CANADA HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED, WITH CONTRIBUTORY EFFORTS ON A SMALLER SCALE FROM A NUMBER OF OTHER COUNTRIES.

(D) IN THE FACE OF ESCALATING ESCAPE RATES, INCREASING INTERNATIONALIZATION OF RESPONSE IS ESSENTIAL IF THE CAMP POPULATION IS TO BE STABILIZED AND REDUCED, AND THE THAI GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGED TO RESETTLE SUBSTANTIAL NUMBERS IN THAILAND AS WELL AS ADMIT NEW REFUGEES.

(E) PARTICULARLY CRITICAL IS THE PLIGHT OF REFUGEES ESCAPING BY BOAT WHO MAY BE DENIED ENTRY TO A COUNTRY OF FIRST ASYLUM IF THEIR ONWARD PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT CANNOT BE GUARANTEED. REFUGEES WHOSE BOATS FOUNDER AT SEA OR ARE TURNED BACK FACE EXTREME HARDSHIP AND DROWNING.

(F) THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS FORMULATED A LONG-TERM REFUGEE ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM, TO BE EMBODIED IN LEGISLATION. WHILE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 118933

AWAITING AMENDMENT OF IMMIGRATION LAW, WE ARE PREPARING TO ADMIT INDOCHINESE REFUGEES AT AN ANNUAL RATE OF UP TO 25,000. OUR PRESENT POLICY WILL ACCOMMODATE BOAT REFUGEES WITHOUT OTHER OFFERS OF RESETTLEMENT NOW IN CAMPS. HOWEVER, A HIGH RATE OF ACCEPTANCE IN THE FUTURE BY OTHER COUNTRIES IS NECESSARY IF WE ARE TO CONTINUE AS REFUGE OF LAST RESORT FOR NEW BOAT REFUGEES.

(G) THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS ALSO BEEN CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPING OTHER METHODS OF DEALING WITH THE CAMP PROBLEM. VICE-PRESIDENT MONDALE DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO SOUTHEAST ASIA OFFERED TO ASSIST THE ROYAL THAI GOVERNMENT IN STUDYING PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT IN THAILAND FOR SOME NUMBERS OF THE REFUGEES. WE HAVE OFFERED UP TO \$2 MILLION TO UNDERWRITE PLANNING, TO BE FOLLOWED BY A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO A MULTILATERAL FUND TO IMPLEMENT THOSE PLANS.

(H) THE THIRD FEATURE OF SUPPORT, IN ADDITION TO ADMISSION OF REFUGEES AND ASSISTANCE WITH PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT IN THAILAND, IS UNHCR FUNDING FOR THE CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES. MANY NATO COUNTRIES HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE UNHCR PROGRAM BUT CONTRIBUTIONS IN THIS AND THE NEXT

FISCAL YEAR WILL HAVE TO BE INCREASED IF CARE AND MAINTEN-  
ANCE IN THE CAMPS IS TO BE SUSTAINED AT CURRENT LEVELS FOR  
  
THE INCREASING CAMP POPULATIONS.

(I) THE U.S. GOVERNMENT HAS DEVELOPED ADMINISTRATIVE PRO-  
CEDURES DURING ITS PREVIOUS PAROLE PROGRAMS, WITH RESPECT  
TO MEDICAL AND SECURITY CLEARANCES AND BIOGRAPHICAL  
INVESTIGATION. INsofar AS COMPATIBLE WITH OTHER COUNTRIES'  
REQUIREMENTS, WE ARE PREPARED TO SHARE WITH THEIR  
IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS OUR FACILITIES TO EXPEDITE SELECTION  
AND ADMISSION OF REFUGEES TO THIRD COUNTRIES.

(J) THE U.S. GOVERNMENT EARNESTLY SOLICITS PARTICIPATION  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 118933

BY NATO COUNTRIES IN SUPPORT OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES AS  
FOLLOWS:

(1) ADOPTION OF A MONTHLY QUOTA FOR BOAT REFUGEES. EVEN  
IF SMALL IN NUMBER, ASSURANCES TO THE UNHCR WILL ASSIST  
GREATLY IN MAINTAINING TEMPORARY ASYLUM IN SOUTHEAST ASIAN  
COUNTRIES FOR BOAT REFUGEES. AT A MINIMUM, OCEAN GOING  
VESSELS SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO PICK UP DISTRESSED REFUGEES  
AT SEA, AS REQUIRED BY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION, FOR WHOM  
THE COUNTRY OF THE SHIP'S REGISTRY AND/OR OWNERSHIP WOULD  
PROVIDE THE REQUIRED RESETTLEMENT GUARANTEES.

(2) CONSIDERATION OF A LONG-TERM ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM FOR  
SOME OF THE REFUGEES ARRIVING BY LAND IN THAILAND.

(3) CONTINUING AND INCREASING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNHCR  
  
FUND FOR CARE AND MAINTENANCE OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES.

(4) CONSIDERATION OF A CONTRIBUTION TO A MULTILATERAL FUND  
FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF RESETTLEMENT IN THAILAND AT SOME TIME  
IN THE FUTURE, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT EXPENDITURES  
FROM THE FUND WOULD BE PHASED, CONTINGENT UPON POSITIVE  
ACTION TOWARD PERMANENT RESETTLEMENT BY THE THAI GOVERNMENT.

END TEXT. VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN



## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN RELATIONS, TEXT, REPORTS, CONSULTANTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE118933  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** LSCHERME RN:ND  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780198-1147  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780573/aaaacjwu.tel  
**Line Count:** 162  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** fb4030a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN HA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 USNATO 4450  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2733724  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NATO EXPERTS REPORT ON SOUTH AND EAST ASIA  
**TAGS:** SREF, XC  
**To:** USNATO  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/fb4030a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014